

I am writing to provide comments to the FCC on the E-Rate NPRM, proceeding 13-184. I am the Technology Supervisor for Polk County TN School District, and a former classroom teacher. I have seen the benefits that the E-Rate program has brought to our rural school district. Our poverty rate is over 70% and without E-Rate we would not be able to provide our students with broadband Internet access. The E-Rate program has fallen prey to it's own success, with demands for bandwidth increasing dramatically every year. In the last funding cycle, applications from schools and libraries requested a total of more than \$5 Billion, which is currently more than twice the amount of available funding. I respectfully urge the FCC to increase funding for the E-Rate program to at least \$5 billion to meet this demand so that our students will be able to continue to develop the skills and knowledge they will need to compete in a global economy.